FAMILY HI. LYC^NID/E

(THE BLUES, THE COPPERS, THE HAIR-STREAKS)

SUBFAMILY

" Mark, while he moves amid the sunny beam,
O'er his soft wings the varying lusters gleam.
Launched into air, on purple plumes he soars,
Gay nature's face with wanton glance explores;
Proud of his varying beauties, wings his way,
And spoils the fairest flowers, himself more fair than they.*'

Quoted as from Haioorth by Scudder.

Butterfly. — Small, in both sexes having all feet adapted to walking. There is exceeding diversity of form in the various genera composing this family. Many of the genera are characterized by the brilliant blue on the upper side of the wings ; in other genera shades of coppery-red predominate. The hair-streaks frequently have the hind wings adorned with one or more slender, elongated tails. In Africa and in Asia there are numerous genera which strongly mimic protected insects belonging to the Acrseinae,

Egg.— The eggs are for the most part flattened or turban-shaped, curiously and beautifully adorned with ridges, minute eminences, and reticulations. Some of them under the microscope strongly resemble the shells of " sea-biscuits " with the rays removed (see p. 4, Fig. 7).

Caterpillar.— *The* caterpillars are for the most part slug-shaped, flattened. They are vegetable feeders, save the larvae of two or three genera, which are aphidivorous, feeding upon mealy bugs or plant-lice.

Chrysalis.— *The* chrysalids are short, compressed, attached at the anal extremity, with a girdle or cincture about the middle, closely fastened to the surface upon which pupation takes place.